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FMC Corporation

Via Email & first class mail

October 26, 2012

Carla Fisher
U.S. EPA Region 10
Ste 900, MS AWT-121
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Re: FMC Pocatello Plant Site - RCRA ID #IDD070929518
Amended RCRA Post-Closure Plan

Dear Ms. Fisher:

This letter serves to transmit an electronic copy of the final draft of the amended FMC Pocatello RCRA Post-Closure Plan (aPCP) that is the result of our discussions over the past several years and which reserves Section 3, for the gas monitoring program, and Section 4, for gas extraction and treatment provisions, for the RCRA Ponds (Volume 1). As we are moving forward with discussions on those sections, it seemed appropriate to provide for your final review the balance of the draft aPCP that we have developed to date.

As you know, FMC began working with EPA in 2009 to develop an amendment to the July 31, 2003 RCRA post-closure plan (PCP) for Pond 16S. The PCPs for Pond 16S and the other RCRA ponds currently require gas pressure monitoring, and further require gas extraction and treatment only if excessive pressure is observed due to the build-up of gas that could impair the integrity of the cap geosynthetic layers. As outlined below, development of the proposed amended Pond 16S PCP was used as the basis for developing an overall amended PCP for all of RCRA ponds. Attachment 1 provides a more detailed chronology of the proposed aPCP for your reference.

After some initial work by EPA and some preliminary meetings, FMC submitted an initial draft aPCP for Pond 16S in April 2010. FMC received numerous comments from EPA, a large number of which were not related to gas monitoring and/or extraction. At a meeting to review those comments, EPA required that FMC move forward with drafting a "unified" aPCP for all the RCRA ponds that addressed the EPA's comments that were



not related to gas monitoring and/or extraction. FMC submitted a draft RCRA Pond aPCP in September 2010.

Separately, EPA required FMC to conduct the following work under Task 1 of the RCRA Pond Unilateral Administrative Order for Removal Action CERCLA Docket No. 10-2010-0170 (RCRA Pond UAO):

Develop and implement a phosphine assessment program at Pond 16S and, as appropriate, at other RCRA Ponds designed to provide the data and information needed to demonstrate where and how frequently monitoring needs to be conducted at each of the RCRA Ponds to protect human health and the environment, and to determine the phosphine concentrations which if met or exceeded would trigger additional monitoring and/or phosphine gas extraction and treatment to protect human health and the environment.

FMC has been conducting this work pursuant to the RCRA Pond Phosphine Assessment Study Work Plan submitted to EPA on November 1, 2010, and updated most recently with the Phosphine Assessment Study 3Q12 Update Technical Memorandum. That update evaluated the monitoring data and trends at Ponds 16S and 18A as previously presented in the January 2012 RCRA Pond Phosphine Assessment Report (submitted 1/31/12), the Phosphine Assessment Study 1Q12 Update Technical Memorandum (submitted 4/11/12), and the Phosphine Assessment Study 2Q12 Update Technical Memorandum (submitted 7/16/12).

With respect to further progress on the RCRA Pond aPCP and EPA comments regarding requested changes not related to gas monitoring and/or extraction, FMC submitted revised drafts and responded to EPA comments through much of 2011, most recently in July 2011 and August 2011. These FMC revisions and responses were directed at resolving EPA comments and aligning the facility's RCRA and CERCLA groundwater monitoring programs. The RCRA Pond aPCP that has been developed through this process includes Section 3, reserved for the gas monitoring program, and Section 4, reserved for gas extraction and treatment provisions. FMC is developing both of these sections in parallel with the phosphine assessment program it is conducting pursuant to the RCRA Pond UAO.

In September 2011, EPA verbally requested that FMC similarly develop an aPCP for the Slag Pit Sump (SPS), the only non-pond unit subject to RCRA post-closure care, to conform the PCP for that unit to the non-gas related changes in the RCRA Pond aPCP. FMC submitted a draft aPCP for the SPS on October 18, 2011. EPA, FMC and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes participated in a conference call on December 13, 2011 to review agency comments on FMC's proposed aPCPs for the RCRA Ponds and the SPS. At the conclusion of that call, FMC and EPA agreed on a path forward to address all the EPA comments on the RCRA Pond and SPS aPCPs, with one exception regarding the notification provisions in Section 7 of the RCRA Pond aPCP and Section 4 of the SPS

aPCP. EPA agreed to provide some additional information and/or draft revised text to FMC regarding those notification provisions.

FMC and EPA are continuing to develop Section 3 of the RCRA Pond aPCP, and we soon will be discussing Section 4. The remainder of the proposed facility aPCP should be complete. Enclosed is the proposed aPCP, encompassing both Volume 1 relating to the RCRA Ponds with Sections 3 and 4 reserved as noted and Volume 2 relating to the SPS, that reflects all the changes we have discussed including those addressed in our December 13, 2011 conference call. Please confirm that this version addresses your comments satisfactorily, ensuring that remaining work is limited to finalization of Sections 3 and 4. This will help move the process forward and focus ongoing efforts on those remaining elements.

This letter and the electronic files are being provided to the same copy list you specified for previous submissions, with the exception of David Reisman at EPA. Please advise me if hard copies are required for any of the recipients.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss, please contact me at 215/299-6700.

Sincerely,



Barbara E. Ritchie
Associate Director, Environment
FMC Corporation

Enclosure

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Attachment 1
General Chronology
FMC Pocatello RCRA amended Post-Closure Plan development

- **November 2008:** EPA and its contractor (Booz Allen Hamilton) conducted a site visit and assessment of the closed, RCRA-regulated surface impoundment units (ponds) at the FMC facility in November 2008.
- **February 2009:** Booz Allen Hamilton issued a site visit report including recommendations for post-closure plan modifications based on the current conditions at the former FMC facility.
- **December 2009:** EPA-FMC meeting was held to discuss FMC's conceptual approach for post-closure phosphine monitoring and amendment of the Pond 16S Post-Closure Plan and EPA - Shaw Environmental site visit (pre-Shaw report visit) on December 15, 2009.
- **February 2010:** EPA issued draft report entitled "Independent Review of Phosphine Issues Related to Pond 16S, Eastern Michaud Flats, Pocatello, Idaho," prepared by Shaw Environmental on February 16, 2010.
- **April 2010:** FMC transmitted the Draft Pond 16S amended RCRA Post-Closure Plan to EPA on April 14, 2010.
- **June 2010:** EPA transmitted comments on FMC's Pond 16S Post-closure Plan Modification on June 18, 2010.
- **July 2010:** EPA-FMC meeting on July 14, 2010 to discuss EPA comments on the draft Pond 16S Amended Post-Closure Plan.
- **August 2010:** Follow-up EPA-FMC conference calls on August 4 and August 17, 2010 to discuss phosphine monitoring and post-closure plan schedule
- **September 2010:** FMC transmitted the Amended RCRA Post-Closure Plan (unified for all RCRA ponds) on September 17, 2010 addressing EPA's June 2010 comments not related to gas monitoring.
- **October 2010:** EPA issued the requirement that FMC prepare Task 1A RCRA Pond Phosphine Assessment Study Work Plan pursuant to the additional work provisions of the RCRA Pond UAO.
- **November 2010:** FMC submitted the RCRA Pond Phosphine Assessment Study Work Plan on November 1, 2010.

- **February 2011:** EPA transmitted comments on 1) the RCRA Pond Post-Closure Plan (September 2010) and 2) FMC's September 17, 2010 Responses to EPA's June 18, 2010 comments on the Pond 16S Post Closure Plan on February 18, 2011.
- **March 2011:** FMC transmitted the Amended RCRA Pond Post-Closure Plan, Response to EPA Comments and Red-line Revisions on March 25, 2011.
- **June 2011:** EPA additional comments were discussed during an EPA / FMC teleconference on June 3, 2011, and EPA transmittal of an email dated June 9, 2011 Re. Summary of the June 3 conference call.
- **July 2011:** FMC transmitted the Amended RCRA Pond Post-Closure Plan, Response to EPA Comments and Further Red-line Revisions on July 8, 2011.
- **August 2011:** FMC submitted replacement pages (addition of analysis of groundwater samples for ammonia at 5-year intervals) to the proposed amended RCRA Pond Post-Closure Plan (July 8, 2011 redline) on August 18, 2011, in response to EPA verbal request to address a comment received on the groundwater monitoring constituents.
- **October 2011:** FMC transmitted a draft amended Post-Closure plan for the Slag Pit Sump (SPS) on October 18, 2012 that was consistent with the format and content (for relevant SPS monitoring and maintenance activities) of the amended elements for the draft amended Post-Closure Plan for the RCRA ponds.
- **December 2011:** FMC-EPA conference call December 13, 2011 in which EPA verbally transmitted comments on the draft amended Slag Pit Sump Post Closure Plan.

2012 update:

While EPA had indicated that the aPCP would move forward to public notice and comments in late 2011 or early 2012, prior to completion of Sections 3 and 4, so that the changes recommended in the Booz Allen Hamilton February 2009 report could be effected more expeditiously, FMC was advised by EPA that the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes would not participate in consultation on an aPCP until gas monitoring and extraction provisions had been developed.

Thus, EPA requested that FMC begin preparing draft frameworks for Sections 3 and 4 even in advance of completion of the ongoing work pursuant to Task 1A of the RCRA Pond UAO, based on information that had been developed to date. This information, developed pursuant to the RCRA Pond Phosphine Assessment Study Work Plan submitted November 1, 2010, was updated most recently with the Phosphine Assessment Study 3Q12 Update Technical Memorandum. That update

reviewed and updated the evaluation of monitoring data and trends at Ponds 16S and 18A that previously had been presented in the January 2012 RCRA Pond Phosphine Assessment Report (submitted 1/31/12), the Phosphine Assessment Study 1Q12 Update Technical Memorandum (submitted 4/11/12), and the Phosphine Assessment Study 2Q12 Update Technical Memorandum (submitted 7/16/12). FMC is drafting Section 3 of the aPCP based on draft Framework for Post-closure Phosphine Monitoring at RCRA Ponds (7/16/12), EPA's draft comments on that Framework (9/7/12), clarification of those comments in a conference call (9/14/12), and FMC's response to those draft comments (10/16/12) and plans to submit a draft of Section 3 and a framework for Section 4 during the first week in December. This will continue progress towards having an aPCP agreed upon in early 2013.